In order to ensure that power projects targeted for capacity addition in the 10th Plan are commissioned without any time and cost overruns, the Ministry of Power has put in place a strong monitoring mechanism which includes weekly reviews.

Expiry of Agreement Made by M/s Duncan North Hydro Power Company

†5188. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to answer to Unstarred Question No. 1151 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th November, 2001 and state:

(a) whether the agreement has not expired automatically following the work has not started after two years have elapsed despite the commitment made by the Duncan's North Hydro Power Company on 1st April, 2000;

(b) if so, whether Government have intimated the same to the company and the statutory compensation has been asked for; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) the Power Purchase Agreement was signed jointly on August 28, 1998 between Government of Uttar Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board and M/s. Duncans North Hydro Power Company Limited for the 330 MW Shrinagar Hydro Electric Power Project in Uttar Pradesh (now in Uttaranchal). The project was accorded techno-economic clearance of Central Electricity Authority on June 14, 2000. As per the techno-economic clearance, the Commercial Operation Date of the first generating unit of the project is 30.06.2005 and the last unit on 30.09.2005. The techno-economic clearance of CEA has only stipulated that if there is delay in commencement of the project beyond April 1, 2001 and delay in commissioning of the project, the project promoter shall not claim any extra cost on account of reasons whatsoever.

The promoters of the project are yet to achieve financial closure and commence construction activities as the land required for execution of the project has not been handed over by the State Government and escrow arrangement for the project has not yet

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

been finalized by the Government of Uttar Pradesh/Government of Uttaranchal.

Bungling by Officers of THDC

†5189. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to the reply to the Unstarred Question No. 3267 given in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd August, 2001 and state:

(a) whether an amount of Rs. 15 crore was paid in the wrong head of removing soil and stones from the spillway;

(b) the designations of the ten charge sheeted officers and the number out of them relieved from duty;

(c) whether after this incident Government have formulated a departmental rule to the effect that the assets of such persons or their legal heir may be seized by the State;

(d) the outcome of the CBI investigation; and

(e) whether any order has been issued to withhold the amount of the charged company equivalent to that of the amount involved in this bungling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Limited (THDC) had awarded the work of excavation of Chute Spilway to M/s. Jai Prakash Industries Limited at a contract value of Rs. 40.64 crores. The provisional completed value of work including variations during execution is Rs. 51.11 crores, out of which Rs. 48.76 crores have been released till date after measurements.

(b) the designations of the officers mentioned in the FIR filed by CBI are the then General Manager, Assistant General Manager and Deputy General Manager incharge of the work, Deputy General Manager (Finance), one Senior Manager, two Managers and three Deputy Managers. Out of these then officers, the then General Manager and Deputy General Manager (Finance) have retired.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.